

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 042828

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY H - LPEZZULLO:DLC

APPROVED BY H - RJMCCLOSKEY

EUR/WE - EROWELL

S/S:CABORG

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 042828

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFO:, US, SP

SUBJECT: SENATE RATIFICATION OF THE US-SPANISH TREATY

FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM MCCLOSKEY

REFS: MADRID 1151, 1152

1. I DELAYED RESPONDING TO THE REFERENCE CABLES UNTIL I HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE FURTHER CONSULTATIONS ON THE HILL. I WILL CONTINUE TO CALL ON KEY MEMBERS OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS AND WILL BE KEEPING YOU INFORMED OF THE GENERAL ATMOSPHERE I ENCOUNTER. THIS WEEK I CALLED ON SENATORS SPARKMAN, PEARSON, MATHIAS, BUMPERS, INOUE AND CLARK AS WELL AS CONGRESSMAN BROOMFIELD. THOUGH NONE HAD STUDIED THE DETAILS OF THE AGREEMENT, THEY WERE GENERALLY SUPPORTIVE. WE HAVE ALSO KEPT VERY CLOSE TO EAGLETON'S OFFICE AND HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THE STAFF MEMBERS OF A HALF DOZEN OTHER SENATORS.

2. ON THE BASIS OF THESE CALLS AND CONTACTS I CONTINUE TO BE OPTIMISTIC THAT THE SENATE WILL RATIFY THE TREATY.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 042828

THAT IS NOT TO SAY THAT WE WON'T FACE PROBING QUESTIONS,

PERHAPS EVEN OPPOSITION, ON SOME OF THE ISSUES RAISED BY

PELL. FOR EXAMPLE, I HAVE KNOWN FOR SOME WEEKS THAT CLARK AND SOME MEMBERS CLOSE TO HIM WERE INCLINED TO TRY TO HOLD OFF CONSIDERATION OF THE TREATY UNTIL THERE WERE ENOUGH CONCRETE ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE WAY OF POLITICAL LIBERALIZATION TO SHOW CONVINCINGLY THAT THE NEW SPANISH GOVERNMENT WILL BE ABLE TO LIVE UP TO ITS STATED INTENTIONS. THANKS TO THE EFFORTS OF EAGLETON, WHO BY THE WAY HAS BECOME OUR STRONGEST SUPPORTER, CLARK HAS COME AROUND TO THE VIEW THAT THE SENATE SHOULD NOT DRAG ITS FEET. THERE WILL ALSO BE QUESTIONING OF THE LEVEL OF THE QUID, WITH SYMINGTON PERHAPS EMERGING AS THE SEVEREST CRITIC. I FEEL CONFIDENT, HOWEVER, THAT WE HAVE ENOUGH IN OUR KIT BAG TO ANSWER HIS ARGUMENTS TO THE SATISFACTION OF OTHER MEMBERS. THERE ALSO MAY BE SOME QUESTIONING OF THE EX-IM CREDITS GIVEN THE NPT ISSUE. ANY ONE OF THESE ISSUES COULD EMERGE AS PARTICULARLY TROUBLESOME, ESPECIALLY IF EVENTS IN SPAIN WORK TO OUR DISADVANTAGE.

3. I CAN WELL IMAGINE THAT THE SPANISH WERE SHOCKED BY PELL'S COMMENTS WHICH APPEARED TO CONTRADICT COMPLETELY THE OPTIMISM WE EXPRESSED REGARDING SENATE PASSAGE. ON BALANCE, HOWEVER, I THINK THE EXPERIENCE PROBABLY WAS BENEFICIAL FOR BOTH PELL AND THE GOS. THANKS TO YOUR HELP I UNDERSTAND PELL HAS COME AWAY A SUPPORTER OF THE TREATY AND THE SPANISH PERHAPS HAVE A MORE REALISTIC VIEW OF OUR CONGRESS. I PLAN TO MEET WITH PELL NEXT WEEK.

4. IT NOW APPEARS THAT THE SFRC WILL INITIATE HEARINGS IN MID-MARCH. IT IS HARD TO PREDICT HOW LONG IT WILL BE STUDIED IN COMMITTEE AND HOW LONG IT WILL TAKE FOR FLOOR ACTION TO BE COMPLETED. THE SENATE CALENDAR IS VERY TIGHT GIVEN THE PRESSURES ON ALL MEMBERS TO COMPLETE ALL WORK BEFORE THE CAMPAIGNING BEGINS IN EARNEST IN EARLY SUMMER, BUT I REMAIN CONFIDENT THAT WE WILL GET THE TREATY THROUGH THE SENATE IN GOOD SEASON. NATURALLY, THIS ASSUMES NO UNTOWARD EVENTS IN SPAIN OR INTERFERENCE AS A RESULT OF UNSEEN CONGRESSIONAL ISSUES.

5. I THINK AREILZA WOULD BE VERY EFFECTIVE WITH  
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PAGE 03 STATE 042828

CONGRESSMEN, AND WE WANT TO BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT HIS OFFER TO COME TO WASHINGTON. TIMING IS ALL-IMPORTANT AND WILL DEPEND BOTH ON HOW THE HEARINGS EVOLVE AND ON OTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CONGRESS AND SPAIN. I WILL GIVE MORE THOUGHT TO WHEN HIS PRESENCE MIGHT BE MOST BENEFICIAL AND WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED.

6. AMBASSADOR ALBA IS CALLING ON ME MONDAY AND MAY HAVE THE SAME IDEA IN MIND. IN YOUR CONVERSATIONS WITH

GOS OFFICIALS, YOU MIGHT RE-EMPHASIZE THE OBVIOUS, THAT DEVELOPMENTS IN SPAIN DURING THIS CRUCIAL PERIOD WHEN MEMBERS ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY INTERESTED IN SPAIN

MAY BE MORE IMPORTANT IN INFLUENCING THEIR VOTES THAN ANY OTHER SINGLE FACTOR. IN THIS REGARD THE TIMING OF THE KING'S ANNOUNCEMENT ON PLANNING FOR A REGIONAL COUNCIL IN CATALONIA IS HELPFUL, AS HAVE BEEN YOUR REPORTS ON THE DISTURBANCES IN BARCELONA. MAW

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